

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 CIAE-00
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AGCONSUL CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE 302
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 4176

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: RH, PDEV, WA, SF
SUBJECT: GARBA TALKS ON TAPE

1. HENRY BRADSHER OF THE WASHINGTON EVENING STAR HAD A FORTY MINUTE PRIVATE INTERVIEW THIS AFTERNOON WITH JOE GARBA. PORTIONS OF THE INTERVIEW, INCLUDING A DESCRIPTION OF THE UPCOMING SCENARIO ON RHODESIA, WERE RECORDED ON TAPE (BRADSHER TOLD ME GARBA ASSENTED READILY). I HAD ONLY LIMITED TIME IN WHICH TO DEBRIEF BRADSHER, BUT FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PORTIONS OF THE TAPE THAT HE REPLAYED FOR ME AND FROM BRADSHER'S COMMENTS ON THE INTERVIEW, IT IS MY IMPRESSION THAT GARBA TOLD THE STORY VERY STRAIGHT (ALTHOUGH HE OMITTED SMITH IN THE CONTACTS SECRETARY VANCE MIGHT MAKE WITH THE SALISBURY TALKERS AFTER THE FIRST MEETING IN DAR ES SALAAM).
2. GARBA ALSO TOLD BRADSHER THAT THE FMG HAD ALREADY BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SAM NUJOMA IN NEW DELHI TO URGE HIM TO VIEW THE

CG'S NAMIBIA PROPOSAL POSITIVELY AND TO EXPEDITE HIS RESPONSE TO IT. NUJOMA AGREED TO COME TO LAGOS APRIL 8 TO TALK FURTHER WITH THE FMG, AFTER A BRIEF VISIT TO IRAQ. GARBA SAID NUJOMA CHARGED THAT WORLD OPINION CONCERNING SWAPO PTAS BEING 'BRAINWASHED' BY SOUTH AFRICA. NUJOMA STRESSED THAT SWAPO 'HAD NOT TURNED DOWN ELECTIONS.' (COMMENT: GARBA PROMISED US DURING THE CARTER/

OBASANJO TALKS LAST WEEKEND THAT HE WOULD TRY TO FIND NUJOMA AND LEAN ON HIM. HE SEEMS TO HAVE DONE IT - AND REMARKABLY QUICKLY CONSIDERING THE FMG'S (USUAL COMMUNICATIONS DIFFICULTIES.)

3. BRADSHER ASKED GARBA ABOUT THE REFERENCE IN THE CARTER/ OBASANJO JOINT COMMUNIQUE TO OBASANJO'S PLEDGE OF 'ALL POSSIBLE POLITICAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT TO THE NATIONALIST LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA' DID THIS INCLUDE ARMS? GARBA REPLIED THAT THE FMG WAS 'IN CONSTANT TOUCH WITH THE PAC AND THE ANC' AND THAT MILITARY SUPPORT WAS INCLUDED IN NIGERIA'S ASSISTANCE TO THOSE GROUPS. GARBA SAID HE FORESAW INCREASING LEVELS OF URBAN GUERRILLA VIOLENCE UNLESS THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT MADE BASIC CHANGES IN ITS STANCE ON EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS.

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